

Childers Continues to Protect North Mississippi Seniors

Cosponsors Resolution to Oppose Increase for Social Security Retirement Age

October 1, 2010

Washington, DC – This week, Congressman Travis Childers (MS-01) joined 56 of his colleagues in introducing a resolution (H.Res.1670) opposing plans to raise the retirement age, noting that any increase in age would lead to an unfair decrease in Social Security benefits.

“During tough economic times, Social Security is more important than ever. That’s why I’ve been proud to protect our seniors’ hard-earned savings by fighting plans to both raise the retirement age and privatize Social Security,” said Childers. “It’s our nation’s promise to seniors that we will provide them with economic security and stability after a lifetime of work and contributions to our society. Raising the retirement age would force hundreds of thousands of hard-working Mississippians to forfeit the benefits they deserve.”

Social Security benefits have already been cut by gradually increasing the full retirement age every two months from 65 for individuals born before 1937 to 67 for individuals born after 1960. Raising the full retirement age above 67 for future retirees would reduce their benefits by 6-7% for each year the age is increased. Social Security benefits are about \$14,000 a year for the average retiree, and the median income for senior households is a mere \$24,000. About one-third of retirees have little other than Social Security benefits to live on.

The resolution is supported by a number of organizations including the Alliance for Retired Americans, the League of Rural Voters, The Arc, United Cerebral Palsy, the National Council of Women’s Organizations, the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers.

A pro-gun, pro-life Mississippian, Congressman Travis Childers (MS-01) represents the First Congressional District in North Mississippi. He is a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition and serves on the House Agriculture and Financial Services Committee. Congressman Childers co-chairs the reestablished bipartisan Congressional Rural Caucus and was appointed to the bipartisan Second Amendment Task Force. For more information, visit www.childers.house.gov